

The Jacob
france
Institute
University of Baltimore

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



A Message from our Executive Director and Leadership Team.



*Richard Clinch,
Executive Director*

The Jacob France Institute experienced both a significant transition and continued growth in fiscal 2016. Dr. Richard Clinch returned to the Institute to serve as Director after the retirement of the Institute's founding Executive Director, Dr. David Stevens. The Institute's portfolio of research and evaluation work continued to grow and evolve, continuing to serve a local, state and national clientele. The Institute remains a nationally recognized source of actionable data and analyses on critical economic, policy, social and workforce issues.

OUR MISSION

The Jacob France Institute (JFI) serves as a leading source of high quality statistical information and research covering the interaction of business, worker, education, social service, community development, and government investment decisions. Analysis of trends in the location, dynamics of businesses and entrepreneurship, and quality of employment along with continued education and training opportunities and outcomes are of particular importance in our current portfolio of research. We manage and participate in alliances with research partners in other states to further discovery of new information that shapes important business and government policy decisions. In conducting our research we respect privacy, protect confidentiality and shun partisanship.

The Institute focuses its efforts in three core areas:

Economic Development and Policy Research – With the arrival of Dr. Clinch as Director, JFI has resumed its role as a leading provider of economic development and policy research. In FY2015, the Institute prepared analyses of the economic impact of LifeBridge Health and supported the development of the Port Covington project in Baltimore City through an economic and fiscal impact analysis.



*Seema Iyer,
Associate Director*

Community and Neighborhood Dynamics

The JFI's Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance (BNIA-JFI) continued to serve as the most visible and impactful source of data and analysis on Baltimore's neighborhoods. BNIA-JFI published its 14th annual Vital Signs report which serves as the "go to" source of information on the City's overall and neighborhood performance. Headed by Dr. Seema Iyer, BNIA-JFI has served as the evaluator of the McElderry Park Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation grant from the Department of Justice, the Baltimore Energy Initiative through Customer Investment Funds of the Public Service Commission and the Targeted Neighborhood Initiative for the Baltimore Community Foundation. BNIA-JFI is the Baltimore partner for the Urban Institute's National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership.



*Ting Zhang,
Associate Director*

Workforce and Human Services

The JFI continues to work with various federal, state, and local government agencies and nonprofits to provide data, analyses and evaluations of critical educational and human services topics, with a focus on the measurement of workforce development outcomes. The Institute's almost three decade long partnership with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation continued as a core focus, where we launched a new customized interactive labor market information dashboard and completed studies on the labor market outcomes for veterans, on overall workforce development conditions, and on the economic and fiscal contribution of Maryland's workforce development services system. JFI continued to offer various technical assistance to multiple government agencies, such as the Maryland Department of Human Resources, Baltimore City Department of Social Services, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, and U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

The Jacob France Institute looks forward to a bright future as we continue to increase our work in these three core areas and expand into new areas of research and data analytics. In the coming year we plan to broaden and deepen our relationships with existing local, state and federal government agency clients to analyze and support policies to address the critical economic and workforce development issues shaping the state and region. We also plan to maintain our focus on providing the data and analysis to support Baltimore City's ongoing renaissance into a more diverse, vibrant and successful city.

Without much effort, you can find JFI—in the news, in that report on your desk, on our website, and in the important decision-making process that occurs at the city, state and national levels. The Institute is committed to serving as a leading source of information and analyses on the issues shaping our City, region and State. And we enjoy working with you!

Education and Labor Markets

The mission of this JFI Program is to develop valid and reliable measures of the performance of education, employment training and cash assistance programs and related support services, and to study how often and in what combination these investments ‘touch’ defined target groups.

Program researchers use historical and routinely updated files of confidential administrative records maintained by the Institute under datasharing agreements with federal, state, and local government agencies. A core asset of the Program includes a network of research partners with similar capabilities in other states. Program researchers study employment status patterns and industry and firm affiliations and employee earnings profiles, as these reflect and impact individual investments in continued education and training and individual acceptance of income supports.

Current research sponsors include the Abell Foundation; the Annie E. Casey Foundation; The Urban Institute; the Maryland Association of Community Colleges; the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention; the Maryland Department of Human Resources; the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation; the Maryland State Department of Education; the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development; the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and the University System of Maryland.



<http://data.baltimoresun.com/news/port-covington/> - A rendering of the proposed Under Armour campus at Port Covington. Courtesy: Sagamore Development

Economic and Workforce Development

The Economic and Workforce Development Program provides research and technical assistance to government, nonprofit and private sector clients on economic, fiscal and workforce development issues. The Program has a fifteen year history of providing both qualitative and quantitative research and analysis to support program planning and evaluation for a diverse Maryland and national clientele. The Program is skilled in both the identification and use of government statistics and generation and use of original data to support high impact, actionable research and evaluation. The Program specializes in issues relating to technology-led economic development, the importance and role of higher education, economic and workforce development strategic planning, and general economic and fiscal impact analysis.

JFI Programs

Human Services

The Human Services Program provides statistical Information and research on the provision of human services in Maryland, with application to the nation as a whole. The information is used to support policy makers in decisions concerning the most disadvantaged groups in society with the goal of promoting independence and providing opportunities to succeed. The focus is on programs that support the ability to work, including job development, child care, food assistance, and cash assistance. In partnership with federal and state agencies and other academic institutions, research priorities are the development of high quality data sources through evaluations of data accuracy and the integration of databases, evaluation of programs and the measurement of performance.

JFI provide various data linkage, data analysis, and other technical services to the Maryland Department of Human Resources, Family Investment Administration (DHR). JFI has prepared and submitted to DHR quarterly data reports for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) Performance Measures, has been conducting analysis of interaction among TCA, SNAP, Unemployment Insurance Benefits, has conduct a series analytical reports on Employment Opportunities for TCA Recipients in high growth industries in Maryland and Employment, is evaluating selected TCA funded substance abuse treatment outcomes, is evaluating selected outcome impacts of the pending Maryland's statewide time limit waiver for Able Bodied Adult without Dependents (ABAWD) recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, and various Ad Hoc Reporting, legislative reporting and consulting services for DHR. Learn more about JFI's partnership with Maryland's DHR.

JFI also provides technical, statistical, and editorial assistance in the preparation of the final semi-annual reports to Baltimore City Department of Social Services.



Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance

The goal and mission of the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance – Jacob France Institute (BNIA-JFI) of the University of Baltimore is to provide accurate data and objective research to a wide range of groups, organizations, and agencies that result in positive policy change. BNIA-JFI strengthens the principle and practice of well-informed decision making to support stronger neighborhoods, an improved quality of life, and a thriving city. This is accomplished through providing accurate, reliable, and accessible and actionable data, indicators, and research that describe the social economic and quality of life issues impacting the City and its neighborhoods



JFI in the News

Maryland adds 9,800 job in June; unemployment rate falls to 4.3 percent - July 22, 2016, Baltimore Sun - <http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bs-bz-june-jobs-report-20160722-story.html>

“The fact that the national labor force increased by so much more that may be a little cautionary sign, but again that number is going to bounce around,” said economist Richard Clinch, head of the University of Baltimore’s Jacob France Institute.

Organizers Hope Light City will light the way for a Renewed Baltimore – March 26, 2016, Baltimore Sun - <http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/light-city-baltimore/bs-ae-light-city-baltimore-20160326-story.html>

“A festival like this has a strategic marketing value, assuming it works,” Clinch said. “If they can pull off what South by Southwest does, it helps put a place on the map. It’s kind of like the Preakness. For one race every year, everybody’s talking about Baltimore. Hopefully, this festival can be like that.”

BNIA Estimates 31,000 Vacant Properties in City - July 22, 2016, Baltimore Brew - <https://www.baltimorebrew.com/2016/07/22/battling-baltimore-vacants-whether-owned-by-speculators-or-the-city/>

The Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance, a division of the Jacob France Institute at the University of Baltimore, estimated last year there were more likely 31,370 vacant properties, using both census and city data.) The city also counts 18,259 vacant lots, a number that will rise as the city continues to demolish vacant buildings, most without plans for redevelopment.

Victor in Mayoral Primary Is Ready to ‘Get Baltimore Working’ - April 27, 2016, New York Times - <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/28/us/catheine-pugh-baltimore.html>

Ms. Pugh says she understands that. She called herself “a person of best practices” and said she had been combing

through research conducted by the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance, a branch of the University of Baltimore.

Baltimore’s Annual Neighborhood – Level Data Report is Out - April 18, 2016, Technical.ly/Baltimore - <http://technical.ly/baltimore/2016/04/18/baltimores-annual-neighborhood-level-data-report/> Also, listen to this report- <http://wypr.org/post/city-neighborhoods#stream/0>

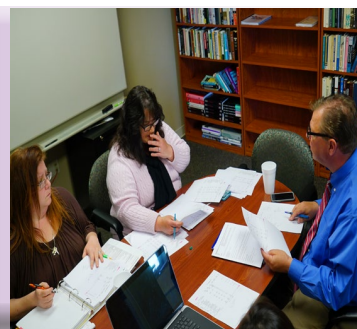
Last year’s Vital Signs report from the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance-Jacob France Institute was a key resource for national media looking to provide hard evidence of the inequality brought to the fore by the riots that followed Freddie Gray’s funeral. As the anniversary arrives, the latest Vital Signs is available.

Notably, this year’s report adds an expanded look at indicators on Arts & Culture. BNIA-JFI Associate Director Seema Iyer said her organization has been working with partners from the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts, Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation. BNIA-JFI also had a Baltimore Corps fellow focused specifically on how to collect arts and culture data annually.

Baltimore and Maryland officials begin ramped up Demolition Plan– January 7, 2016 – Baltimore Sun - <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/editorial/bs-md-ci-demolition-follow-20160107-story.html>

In each of those areas, one third of the homes are vacant. Seema D. Iyer, an assistant professor at the University of Baltimore who studies the city’s demographics, said research shows a neighborhood stops growing when 4 percent of its homes become vacant or abandoned. Notably, this year’s report adds an expanded look at indicators on Arts & Culture. BNIA-JFI Associate Director Seema Iyer said her organization has been working with partners from the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts, Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation. BNIA-JFI also had a Baltimore Corps fellow focused specifically on how to collect arts and culture data annually.

2016 Highlights at JFI



The Economic Contribution of LifeBridge Health to the Maryland and Baltimore Regional Economy *Sponsored by LifeBridge Health*

The JFI prepared an analysis of the economic and fiscal impacts of the LifeBridge Health System and each of its four component hospitals on the state, region and communities they serve. This economic impact analysis included an assessment of the community level impacts of LifeBridge on the neighborhood's surrounding its Baltimore City and County hospitals, as well as an assessment of the economic, workforce and social impacts of the hospital system. Report: The Economic Contribution of LifeBridge Health to the Maryland and Baltimore Regional Economy

Equity in Weatherization Assistance Programs: Using Integrated Data Systems to Measure Household Access to Housing Investments & Social Safety Net Programs

Sponsored by Annie E Casey Foundation, Urban Institute

BNIA-JFI analyzed outcomes for applicants and recipients of funds provided by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

1. WAP services tend to be applied in "middle" neighborhoods with low levels vacant housing and moderate median sales prices, but slightly higher than average unemployment levels.

2. WAP applicants living in predominantly owner-occupied housing who were denied WAP tend more often to experience foreclosure filings which is a sign of household distress.

3. WAP services and TANF, a key social safety net program, co-occur less than expected.

A Neighborhood's Perspective What Happened in Baltimore and What Can We Do?

A Neighborhood's Perspective offers a clear set of data-driven objectives for community organizations, non-profits, elected officials and all stakeholders to work together to eliminate disparities in neighborhoods. This report represents the synthesis of several years of work by

the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance-Jacob France Institute (BNIA- JFI) and points to 3 key goals that could serve as a common agenda to improve quality of life in every neighborhood. This report aims to highlight key indicators that stand as major barriers in neighborhoods and what we can do to truly achieve a more just and equitable City.

Vital Signs 14

Vital Signs 14, a comprehensive statistical portrait of Baltimore and its neighborhoods, marks 14 years of continuous monitoring of community-based quality of life indicators. The 14th edition of the report, published by the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance-Jacob France Institute

(BNIA-JFI), tracks more than 100 indicators that "take the pulse" of neighborhood health and vitality. The report, along with new indicators and several data visualization aides, is available now on BNIA- JFI's updated website.

Overall economic conditions in Baltimore City continued a slow but gradual recovery with increases in jobs and decreases in unemployment between 2013 and 2014.

- From 2013 to 2014, the number of jobs filled by employees in Baltimore City increased 2.7 percent, from 335,497 in 2013 to 344,588 in 2014.

Ex-Offender Employment in the Johns Hopkins Health System: 2009-2012 Hires

Sponsored by Abell Foundation

and Johns Hopkins Health System. July 2015. By Ting Zhang, Jing Li, and David Stevens

Decision-relevant customized indicators of business and workforce dynamics for data dashboards, Sponsored by Department of Labor and Licensing (DLLR) by Jing Li, Hunter Leavy, and Ting Zhang, delivered to DLLR, March 2016.

Towards Understanding the Workforce Needs of Maryland Veterans

Sponsored by Department of Labor and Licensing (DLLR) by Jing Li, submitted to DLLR, June 2016.



2016/2017 Ongoing Projects

Federal Employment Data Exchange System (FEDES)

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (DOL/ETA), and Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. (DLLR)

FEDES provides information on federal employment to participating states to help them meet their reporting requirements. The JFI is responsible for the technical operations of FEDES Program between participating states and three federal agencies (Office of Personnel Management, Department of Defense, and the U.S. Postal Service). Currently 41 states participate in FEDES. Reports: Quarterly “Request Response Reports” delivered to DOL/ETA Survey to FEDES states for performance measurement purposes. Website: www.ubalt.edu/jfi/FEDES

Technical Assistance Services to the Family Investment Administration of Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS)

Sponsor: BCDSS, Family Investment Administration (FIA)

JFI provides technical assistance in the area of performance measurement and project management relating to CenterStat, the Center Report Card, tracking the performance of BCDSS service providers and other project management tasks, including data analysis, policy analysis and management analysis. The JFI contributes to the development and implementation of new standard operating procedures and best practices. Reports: Quarterly data reports containing information on employment of TANF recipients, by local department in Baltimore City. Trends in Employment Opportunities for Baltimore City Welfare Recipients - June 2016 Website: <http://dhr.maryland.gov/county/baltimorecity/index.php>

Economic Research on the Joint Contribution of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program McElderry Park Crime Reduction Plan

Sponsor: Mayor’s Office on Criminal Justice through a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

Working with faculty in UB’s School of Criminal Justice, BNIA-JFI used community-based indicators to develop a data-driven analysis of the drivers of crime within the McElderry Park community. Sixteen crime hotspots were

identified along with systemic issues related to violent and property crime in the area.

Website: <http://mocj.baltimorecity.gov/ByrneCriminalJusticeInnovation.aspx>

Baltimore Community Foundation Target Neighborhoods Evaluation

Sponsor: Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF)

With a team led by the University of Maryland School of Social Work, BNIA-JFI is providing data and community based indicators to evaluate progress within BCF’s two target neighborhoods, Greater Highlandtown and Reservoir Hill. BCF Target Neighborhoods have received a commitment of \$1 million in resources over three years, which includes \$600,000 in grants, a significant amount of staff time on the ground in these neighborhoods, and a thorough evaluation of social capital, cleanliness, greening, safety, and vibrancy.

The Pipeline

Sponsor: Association of Builders & Contractors—Baltimore Chapter, Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore

‘The Pipeline’ tracks development projects in the pre-planning stages as a service to developers. Understanding and keeping track of the status of projects during the development review phase is complicated because projects evolve as developers ensure compliance with local land use regulations and produce contextually sensitive final designs. ‘The Pipeline’ is a database that tracks development projects through the review process and documents the status of the project prior to obtaining a building permit. Website: <http://realestate.bnijfi.org>

Montgomery Community College TAACCCT Grant (2016-2018)

Sponsor: Montgomery College

JFI will develop an Employment Results Scorecard and Interactive Management Information System. The scorecard will contain a series of employment and earning information to help current and future students along with college leadership make informed individual and institutional decisions. The MIS system will provide the college an interactive dashboard and secure database which allows them to maintain and check records in a confidential manner.

What's New for JFI in 2017



In 2017, the Institute's Economic Development and Policy Research Group will prepare reports on:

Trends in Occupational Employment Baltimore County Maryland

Sponsor: The Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development

The JFI is teamed with Valbridge Property Advisors to prepare an assessment of new and emerging job trends in Baltimore County's nine core employment clusters. This report will assess labor market supply and demand conditions in the County and provide recommendations on workforce development policies and strategies to integrate and support economic and workforce development in the County.

Baltimore Regional Incubator/Innovation District Demand Analysis

Sponsor: the Baltimore Development Corporation and the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore

The JFI is teamed with Morgan State University to prepare an assessment, demand analysis and gap analysis of Baltimore's Incubator/Entrepreneurial support system and conduct asset mapping of the regional resources available to support innovation district development in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. This project will be supported by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

(SNAP) and Unemployment Insurance (UI) to the Nation's Safety Net

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

JFI is the lead partner of a five state consortium (Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan and Texas) analyzing the interaction of SNAP caseload and recipient household composition dynamics aligned with receipt of UI benefits and participation in UI covered employment. Using linked state administrative records for SNAP, UI wage records and UI benefits, the alignment in time between individuals' receipt of UI benefits and SNAP benefits is examined, including how much overlap occurs in the receipt of benefits and how long do households receive UI benefits before receiving SNAP benefits.

The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of the University of Maryland, Baltimore

Sponsor: University of Maryland, Baltimore

The JFI will prepare an analysis of the economic and fiscal impacts of the University of Maryland, Baltimore on the Maryland and Baltimore City economies. The JFI will expand this analysis to include an assessment of the importance of the university to state and regional economic and workforce development efforts.

Cultural Mapping Tool

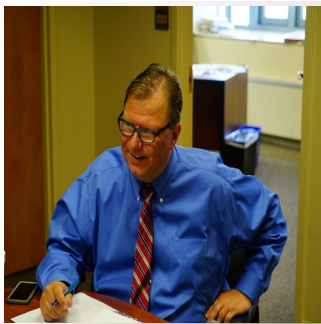
Sponsors: National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), France-Merrick Foundation, Baltimore Development Corporation

Arts and cultural activities contribute to the vitality of neighborhoods by creating spaces for social interaction and sharing, stimulating community-based economic opportunities, and transforming the physical and emotional notions of place. As Baltimore's communities, growth, and economy are increasingly tied to arts and culture, creating a mapping tool to track related data has become essential to the city's future.

Baltimore Open Land Data Projects (BOLD)

Sponsors: The Abell Foundation

In partnership with the Community Law Center and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, BNIA- JFI is developing data-driven technology tools to create solutions to vacant property problems that will empower advocates to devise efficient stabilization and revitalization strategies in neighborhoods across the city. The project will create a user-friendly mapping and data tool that integrates publicly available parcel-level property information from multiple sources. This data will include such information as property ownership, code violations, occupancy, foreclosure, and tax sale status. The tool will provide users with a comprehensive set of relevant information to better understand, analyze, and reform various property-related policies, including tax-sale foreclosure.



2016 Grant Awards

Performance Period: July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Abell Foundation	\$7,500
Annie E. Casey Foundation	\$85,000
Baltimore City Department of Social Services	\$291,079
Baltimore City Mayor's office	\$50,951
Baltimore Corps	\$9,000
BHEF	\$50,000
Bon Secours Hospital	\$5,000
Center for Community Progress	\$25,962
CHAI	\$10,333
Community Colleges of Baltimore County	\$21,926
DC-OSSE	\$69,000
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation	\$302,496
Department of Business and Economic Development	\$27,500
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation	\$223,000
Deutsch Foundation	\$26,500
Emerging Technology Center	\$10,609
France Merrick Foundation	\$50,000
Governor's Office on Crime Control and Prevention	\$47,988
Howard County Community College	\$7,500
ICF	\$15,528
Kauffman Foundation	\$59,080
Lifebridge Health	\$38,571
Live Baltimore	\$14,999
Maryland Association of Community Colleges	\$16,675
Mercy Hospital	\$1,456
Montgomery College	\$425,903
National Institutes of Health	\$584
Prince George's Community College	\$4,617
Sagamore Development	\$21,750
Shady Grove	\$4,763
T. Rowe Price Foundation	\$5,005
UMSSW	\$50,000
United States Department of Agriculture	\$230,000
University of Baltimore	\$2,500
University of Baltimore	\$8,131
University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation	\$19,930
University of Maryland Baltimore County	\$2,500
USDA Forest Service	\$35,000
Valbridge	\$32,890
Waterfront Partnership	\$14,814
Total	\$2,326,040



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The Jacob France Institute is the economic research arm of the Merrick School of Business. The JFI explores the dynamics of management employee relations and public policy actions and their consequences.



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